

**Lancaster Rural District Council**

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**REPORT**

**OF THE**

**Medical Officer of Health**

**AND THE**

**Chief Public Health Inspector  
for the Year**

**1969**



# **PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE**

(as on 31st December, 1969)

*Chairman:*

**Councillor F. BUTCHER**

Councillor	R. Armer	Councillor	J. S. Lowthion
„	Mrs. B. M. Atkinson	„	R. M. Makinson
„	J. C. Bowker	„	<b>J. Mason</b>
„	T. E. Burrows	„	J. T. Parker
„	A. Clarke	„	W. L. Rigg
„	J. Downey	„	Mrs. E. Rudkin
„	E. Dunnett	„	E. S. Sharp,
			M.B.E., J.P.
„	F. Glasgow	„	T. P. Shuttleworth
„	E. R. Harris	„	Mrs. J. M. Swaits
„	J. Kitchen	„	H. Taylor
„	E. H. Livesey	„	T. Tomlinson

## **STAFF :**

### **Medical Officer of Health :**

**J. V. DYER, M.B., B.S., L.R.C.P, M.R.C.S., D.P.H.**

### **Deputy Medical Officer of Health :**

**B. O. WILSON, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H., D.R.C.O.G.**

### **Chief Public Health Inspector :**

**CLIFFORD HYDE °**

### **Additional Public Health Inspector :**

**J. ERIC BARTON °**

**°Public Health Inspector's Certificate**

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Public Health Department,  
5 Dalton Square, Lancaster

*To the Chairman and Members of the  
Lancaster Rural District Council*

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present for your consideration this Annual Report on the health and sanitary conditions of the Lancaster Rural District, in respect of the year ending 31st December, 1969. The form and content are in accordance with the Department of Health Circular 1/70.

The modest, but steady increase in the estimated population continued, although the number of births was just a few less than in 1968, and deaths exceeded births by 38. However, whilst the pattern of more deaths than births has become established in the District, during the past decade, it does not indicate anything sinister! Account must be taken of the age and sex structure of our community. Being such a delightful area in which to live, there is a high proportion of people who have moved here to make this their retirement home. From them, we could not expect a contribution to the birth rate. So in order to compare area with area the Registrar-general calculates for each local authority "comparability factors"—numbers by which the crude birth rate and death rate should be multiplied, to allow for the multiplicity of age—sex differences from the national demography. Our resultant adjusted rates were both then shown to be only a little lower than those for England and Wales, quite a satisfactory situation.

The number of male deaths from cancer of the lung continues to rise, and is approaching ten per cent of the total annual deaths of men. I must once again stress that many of these deaths, frequently in the prime of life, could be avoided, if people would stop cigarette smoking. This relationship can no longer be ignored, and, as I have said on many occasions whilst accepting that even the most determined adults can find it almost impossible to give up the habit, every effort should be made to discourage children from starting.

The acceptance rate of protective vaccines was disappointing—about 50% of babies born the previous year. Not only here in north Lancashire, but throughout the whole country, there has been

a similar reduction and locally, we are investigating the possible reasons. This is a situation which is causing me considerable concern. The wonderful success of the national immunisation and vaccination campaign since the last war, has resulted in a generation of mothers who have not known the tragedies of diphtheria, distress of whooping cough, or scarring of smallpox. As a race, we object to compulsory medication, so the alternative is convincing persuasion and health education. Every person in a position of civic authority and community leadership should not miss the opportunity to encourage mothers to take their babies to the family doctor for a course of immunisations and vaccinations.

Not having mentioned Brucellosis last year, I feel justified in commenting this year; favourably. For the first time, in many years, no infected cow, supplying milk to be sold as raw milk, was discovered in the District. Furthermore, over one quarter of the dairy herds in this District have been registered as accredited under the Brucellous (Attested Herds) Scheme. This scheme was necessary in order to build up a reservoir of clean stock, before embarking on compulsory eradication. There is now a financial incentive, for the farmer, which provides additional payments for milk and beef from accredited herds. By the spring of 1971, the first eradication areas will be announced. I do hope that we shall be amongst them.

Within this District, the era of slum clearance has virtually passed, and we are now almost wholly inclined towards the conservation of our houses, which is the ideal situation. The potential cost of improvements is far less than the cost of demolition and replacement. The Council is to be complemented on their forward looking approach, relative to this subject, and during 1969, almost £10,000 was made available in the form of grants.

I record once again my sincere appreciation of the work of my colleagues in the Public Health Department, and my thanks to the Committee for their interest and guidance.

I have the honour to be,  
Ladies and Gentleman,

Your obedient Servant,

J. V. DYER,  
Medical Officer of Health.

**SECTION A.**

**STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS  
OF THE AREA.**



**STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA**

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Area in acres .....	53,010
Population (Census 1961) .....	14,018
Registrar General's estimate of home population (mid-year 1969) .....	17,310
Number of inhabited houses (Census 1931) .....	2,396
Number of inhabited houses (Census 1961) .....	4,658
Number of inhabited houses 1969 (according to rate books) .....	6,279
Rateable Value .....	£782,299
Sum represented by a penny rate .....	£3,152

The District is largely rural in character with popular residential areas in several of its sixteen parishes.

Agriculture is the most important, if not the largest industry. Other industries are quarrying, building, textiles and catering for tourists and holiday makers.

By far the largest industrial undertaking is the Trimpell petroleum refinery at Middleton, which provides employment for a considerable number of people from the Rural District.



## SUMMARY OF VITAL STATISTICS FOR YEAR 1969

	M.	F.	Total
LIVE BIRTHS (Legitimate) .....	105	102	207
(Illegitimate) .....	8	8	16
Total .....	113	110	223
Crude Birth Rate per 1,000 est. population .....			12.9
Adjusted Birth Rate per 1,000 est. population .....			15.2
Illegitimate Live Births per cent of total live births .....			7.0
STILL BIRTHS (Legitimate) .....	1	1	2
(Illegitimate) .....	Nil	Nil	Nil
Total .....	1	1	2
Still Birth Rate per 1,000 total live and still births .....			9
TOTAL LIVE AND STILL BIRTHS .....	114	111	225
INFANT DEATHS UNDER ONE YEAR OF AGE			
Legitimate .....	3	3	6
Illegitimate .....	Nil	Nil	Nil
Total .....	3	3	6
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 live births .....			27
INFANT DEATHS UNDER 4 WEEKS OF AGE			
Neo-Natal Mortality Rate per 1,000 live births .....	3	1	4
INFANT DEATHS UNDER 1 WEEK OF AGE	3	Nil	3
Early Neo-Natal Mortality Rate per 1,000 live births .....			13
INFANT DEATHS UNDER 1 WEEK PLUS STILL BIRTHS			
Peri-natal Mortality Rate per 1,000 total live and still births .....	4	1	5
DEATHS FROM MATERNAL CAUSES .....			NIL
Maternal Mortality Rate per 1,000 total live and still births .....			NIL
DEATHS FROM ALL CAUSES .....	145	116	261
Crude Mortality Rate per 1,000 est. population .....			15.1
Adjusted Mortality Rate per 1,000 est. population .....			10.7

TABLE 1. COMPARATIVE STATISTICS FOR 1969 AND PERIOD 1964-68

	Live births		Deaths (all causes)		Still births		Maternal Mortality		Infant Mortality		Total		Neo-natal	
	No. registered	Crude Rate per 1,000 population	No. registered	Crude Rate per 1,000 population	No. registered	Rate per 1,000 total births	No. of deaths registered	Rate per 1,000 total births	No. of deaths registered	Rate per 1,000 live births	No. of deaths registered	Rate per 1,000 live births	No. of deaths registered	Rate per 1,000 live births
Year 1969	223	*12.9	261	†15.1	2	9.0	Nil	Nil	6	27.0	4	18		
Year 1968	228	13.2	271	15.7	3	13.0	Nil	Nil	3	13.0	1	4		
„ 1967	247	14.5	263	15.5	2	8.0	Nil	Nil	1	4.0	Nil	Nil		
„ 1966	246	14.9	220	13.3	3	12.0	Nil	Nil	1	4.1	Nil	Nil		
„ 1965	232	14.5	234	14.6	2	8.5	Nil	Nil	2	8.6	Nil	Nil		
„ 1964	209	13.6	202	13.1	5	23.4	Nil	Nil	2	9.6	2	9.6		
Average														
5 years	—	14.1	—	14.4	—	13.0	—	Nil	—	7.8	—	2.7		
1964-1968														

\* Adjusted live birth-rate (comparability factor 1.18) = 15.2 per 1,000 population.

† Adjusted deathrate (comparability factor 0.71) = 10.7 per 1,000 population.



## COMMENTS ON VITAL STATISTICS

1. **Population.** The Registrar General's estimate of the population at mid-year 1969 was 17,310 against 17,270 the year before. The population of the Rural District is continuing to grow and appears to be doing so at a greater rate than in earlier years. For the eight years 1961-69 the total increase in the population was 3,292, compared with an increase of 1,963 for the ten years 1951-1961. The growth in population has been due almost entirely to the influx of new residents.
2. **Births.** In 1969 there were 223 registered live births, a decrease of 5 from the previous year, giving a crude birth rate of 12.9 per 1,000 population. The adjusted rate of 15.2 per 1,000 was slightly less than the crude rate for England and Wales, which was 16.3 per 1,000.
3. **Deaths.** The total number of deaths from all causes in 1969 was 261, ten less than in the previous year, giving a crude death rate of 15.1 per 1,000 population. The Adjusted death rate was 10.7 per 1,000, compared with 11.9, the rate for England and Wales.

It will be seen from the classified list of causes of death in table 3 that diseases of the heart and circulatory diseases again appeared as the most common cause of death and in this group coronary thrombosis continues to be the chief culprit. This disease is characteristic in that it most often strikes people in middle age, reflecting perhaps the increased tempo of modern life.

4. **Infant Mortality.** The number of deaths of infants under one year of age was 6, equivalent to an infant mortality rate of 27.0 per 1,000 live births. Owing to the smallness of the absolute figures the mortality rate can vary considerably from year to year and the average rate for the preceding five years was 7.8 per 1,000 live births. The rate for England and Wales in 1969 was 18.0
5. **Long-term Trends in Vital Statistics.** A much more reliable picture of the long-term changes in the birth and death rates in the District can be obtained when the yearly variations, which for statistical reasons may occur at irregular intervals, have been smoothed out as in Table 2 overleaf. This shows the birth and death rates expressed as averages of each 10 year period between 1891-1960, and from these certain trends can be traced and conclusions drawn with reasonable safety. Thus the distinct fall in infant and maternal mortality is in marked contrast to the rising tide of deaths from cancer of the lung and other forms of cancer. Note also the falling birth rate, once again, which is continuing in 1970 throughout the whole country.

TABLE 2. VITAL STATISTICS LANCASTER R.D.

The principal vital statistics for the seven decennial periods between 1891 and 1960, together with those for 1961, 1962, 1963, 1964, 1965, 1966, 1967, 1968 and 1969 are given below:—

	Live Births		Still Births		Deaths (all causes)		Infant Mortality		Maternal Mortality		Cancer (Deaths)		
Mean of 10 years	Estimated population (all ages)	No. registered	Rate per 1,000 est. population	No. registered	Rate per 1,000 total births	No. registered	Rate per 1,000 est. population	No. of infant deaths regd.	Rate per 1,000 live births	No. of maternal deaths regd.	Rate per 1,000 live & still-births	No. of deaths registered	Rate per 1,000 est. population
1891-1900	13,224	374.4	28.3	§	§	217.5	16.4	46.7	125	§	§	§	§
1901-1910	8,937	199.7	22.3	§	§	120.2	13.4	19.4	97	§	§	5.8	0.65
1911-1920	*9,001)	165.3	18.4	§	§	120.5	13.8	13.7	83	0.6	§	10.9	1.25
	†8,702)												
1921-1930	9,332	161.5	17.3	§	§	120.3	12.9	9.6	59	0.6	§	11.6	1.24
1931-1940	*9,829)	135.7	13.8	6.6	46	135.2	13.7	7.8	57	1.0	7.03	15.4	1.56
	†9,857)												
1941-1950	11,002	165.3	15.0	3.6	21.4	148	13.5	6.5	39.4	0.4	2.37	20	1.82
1951-1960	12,719	180.3	14.2	3.1	16.8	172.3	13.5	4.8	27.5	0.1	0.53	25.4	2.00
1961	13,930	208	14.9	3	14.2	210	15.1	4	19.2	Nil	Nil	37	2.73
1962	14,450	194	13.4	4	20.2	234	16.2	4	20.6	Nil	Nil	38	2.63
1963	14,820	168	11.3	2	11.8	238	16.1	3	17.9	Nil	Nil	43	2.90
1964	15,420	209	13.6	5	23.4	202	13.1	2	9.6	Nil	Nil	27	1.76
1965	16,030	232	14.5	2	8.5	234	14.6	2	8.6	Nil	Nil	65	4.05
1966	16,550	246	14.9	3	12.0	220	13.3	1	4.1	Nil	Nil	48	2.90
1967	16,990	247	14.5	2	8.0	263	15.5	1	4.0	Nil	Nil	55	2.94
1968	17,270	228	13.2	3	13.0	271	15.7	3	13.0	Nil	Nil	50	2.90
1969	17,310	223	12.9	2	9.0	261	15.1	6	27.0	Nil	Nil	58	3.34

\* For calculation of birth rate. † For calculation of death rate. § Not available.  
NOTE—1. From 1950 deaths from Hodgkin's disease, leukaemia and aleukemia are included in the total of cancer deaths.  
2. The population estimates and numbers of registered deaths for the years 1940-49, inclusive, relate to civilians only.  
3. The decrease in population at the change of the century was due to boundary alterations.



TABLE 3

**CLASSIFICATION OF CAUSES OF DEATH DURING  
THE YEAR, 1969**

Cause of Death	M.	F.	Total
B19(1) Malignant Neoplasm, Buccal Cavity, etc. ....	2	Nil	2
B19(3) Malignant Neoplasm, Stomach ....	6	4	10
B19(4) Malignant Neoplasm, Intestine ....	7	6	13
B19(5) Malignant Neoplasm, Larynx ....	1	1	2
B19(6) Malignant Neoplasm, Lung, Bronchus	13	1	14
B19(7) Malignant Neoplasm, Breast ....	Nil	2	2
B19(9) Malignant Neoplasm, Prostate ....	2	Nil	2
B19(11) Other Malignant Neoplasms ....	3	10	13
B21 Diabetes Mellitus ....	Nil	1	1
B22 Avitaminoses, etc. ....	Nil	1	1
B26 Chronic Rheumatic Heart Disease ....	1	1	2
B27 Hypertensive Disease ....	3	2	5
B28 Ischaemic Heart Disease ....	44	25	69
B29 Other forms of Heart Disease ....	5	5	10
B30 Cerebrovascular Disease ....	23	30	53
B31 Influenza ....	1	1	2
B32 Pneumonia ....	6	7	13
B33(1) Bronchitis and Emphysema ....	5	Nil	5
B33(2) Asthma ....	1	Nil	1
B34 Peptic Ulcer ....	1	2	3
B38 Nephritis and Nephrosis ....	1	Nil	1
B42 Congenital Anomalies ....	Nil	2	2
B43 Birth Injury, Difficult Labour, etc. ....	2	Nil	2
B44 Other Causes of Perinatal Mortality ....	1	Nil	1
B45 Symptoms and Ill Defined Conditions ....	Nil	2	2
B46(4) Other Diseases of Nervous System, etc.	2	1	3
B46(5) Other Diseases of Circulatory System	7	6	13
B46(6) Other Diseases of Respiratory Sytsem	2	1	3
B46(7) Other Diseases of Digestive System	1	1	2
B46(8) Other Diseases, Genito-Urinary System	1	Nil	1
B46(10) Diseases of Musculo-Skeletal System	Nil	1	1
B47 Motor Vehicle Accidents ....	2	1	3
B48 All Other Accidents ....	1	2	3
B49 Suicide and Self-Inflicted Injuries ....	1	—	1
<b>TOTAL ALL CAUSES</b> ....	<b>145</b>	<b>116</b>	<b>261</b>

**TABLE 4. DEATHS CLASSIFIED BY AGE GROUPS AND PARISH — JANUARY-DECEMBER 1969**

PARISH	0-	1-	2-	3-	4-	5-	10-	15-	20-	35-	45-	65-	75-	80+	Total
Ashton-with-Stodday												1	1		2
Bolton-le-Sands	2										5	24	11	15	57
Cockerham										1	1	2	2	1	7
Ellel					1						4	10	3	3	21
Heaton-with-Oxcliffe	1									1					2
Middleton												3		1	4
Overton	1										5	3	2	4	15
Over Wyresdale										1	1	1		2	5
Priest Hutton	1														1
Scotforth															—
Silverdale										1	6	12	13	29	61
Slyne-with-Hest									1		7	13	5	17	43
Thurnham											1	2	1		4
Warton											5	11	6	8	30
Yealand Conyers											1	3			4
Yealand Redmayne											1	1	1	2	5
TOTALS	5				1				1	4	37	86	45	82	261

## **SECTION B.**

### **GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA**



(a) **Laboratory Facilities.** The bacteriological examination of milk, water, ice cream and foodstuffs, as well as of specimens of faeces, nose and throat swabs, etc., from individual patients is carried out at the Public Health Laboratory at Preston. Chemical analysis of water, milk and foodstuffs, under the Food and Drugs Act 1955 is carried out by the County Analyst, Dr. Walker.

(b) **Ambulance Facilities.** Ambulance Services are administered by the Divisional Health Office of the Lancashire County Council, Health Division No. 2; Lancaster; the telephone number of the ambulance station is Lancaster 3311.

(c) **Domicilliary Services.** The services of District Nurses Midwives, and Home Helps, to look after patients in their own homes, are provided by the Lancashire County Council, acting as the Local Health Authority. These services for the Lancaster Rural District are administered from the Divisional Health Office at Slyne Road, Lancaster.

(d) **Treatment Centres and Clinics.** The following Centres and Clinics catering for the area have been established by the Lancashire County Council:—

**School Clinics :**

- (1) Market Street, Carnforth.
- (2) Ashton Road, Lancaster.
- (3) Ryelands House, Lancaster.
- (4) Euston Road, Morecambe.

**Child Welfare Centres :**

- (1) Memorial Hall, Hest Bank.
- (2) The Village Institute, Galgate.
- (3) Gaskell Memorial Hall, Silverdale.
- (4) Congregational Church Hall, Bolton-le-Sands.
- (5) Parish Hall, Cockerham.
- (6) Memorial Hall, Overton.

The following clinics are administered by the North Lancs. and South Westmorland Hospital Management Committee :—

- (1) Tuberculosis—Beaumont Hospital, Lancaster.
- (2) Venereal Diseases—Special Treatment Centre, Royal Lancaster Infirmary.

**(e) Hospitals.**

**Infectious Diseases :—**Beaumont Hospital, at Slyne Road, Lancaster.

**Other Cases :—**The Lancaster Royal Infirmary, The Queen Victoria Hospital, Morecambe, Lancaster Moor Hospital, Royal Albert Hospital, Lancaster.



**SECTION C.**

**PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER  
INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES**

**TABLE 5. CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE NOTIFIED DURING 1969**

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES		AGE PERIOD — YEARS													Total cases at all ages	25 and over	Age unknown	Total Deaths
		Total cases at all ages	0-	1-	2-	5-	10-	15-	20-	25-	35-	45-	55-	65-	75-			
Measles (excluding rubella)		9	2	2	NIL	2	1	2	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL			
Dysentery		2	1	1	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL			
Tuberculosis — Respiratory		1	NIL	NIL	1	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL			
Infective Jaundice		8	NIL	NIL	NIL	4	NIL	NIL	1	1	1	1	NIL	NIL	NIL			

**TABLE 6. INCIDENCE OF CERTAIN INFECTIOUS DISEASES LANCASTER R.D., 1945-1969**

YEAR or period of Years	Scarlet Fever	Diphtheria	Measles	Whooping Cough	Acute Polio- myelitis	Dysentery	Food Poison- ing	Resp. Tubercu- losis	Non-resp. Tubercu- losis	Tubercu- losis (All Forms)
Mean of 5 years 1945-49	7.0	2.4	37.6	11.0	0.6	Nil	Nil	9.2	3.0	12.2
Mean of 5 years 1950-54	9.8	0.2	61.4	19.0	1.2	1.8	6.0	9.0	3.0	12.0
Mean of 5 years 1955-59	5.8	Nil	107	8.4	0.4	1.0	1.2	7.2	1.8	9.4
Mean of 5 years 1960-64	6.0	Nil	80	5.2	0.2	3.3	0.4	4.2	1.8	6.0
1965	14	Nil	196	2	Nil	Nil	1	2	2	4
1966	6	Nil	70	2	Nil	12	Nil	2	Nil	2
1967	4	Nil	61	1	Nil	10	Nil	2	1	3
1968	7	Nil	189	1	Nil	5	1	8	Nil	8
1969	Nil	Nil	9	Nil	Nil	2	Nil	1	Nil	1



### **1. Diphtheria and Scarlet Fever.**

No cases of diphtheria have occurred in the area since 1950. To maintain this satisfactory position, it is still essential for parents to ensure that their children are immunised in early infancy against this once dreaded disease.

No cases of scarlet fever were notified during the year compared with seven in 1968.

### **2. Measles and Whooping Cough.**

The very great reduction in the number of Measles cases notified during the year (9) compared with about 200 during the previous year was predictable, and was a result of the immunisation campaign that was commenced during 1968. A protective vaccine is readily available, and like other immunisations, can be given to babies by either the family doctor or at School clinics.

No cases of whooping cough were notified in 1969. As will be seen from Table 6 this disease is becoming less common and also less severe in nature since pertussis vaccine came into regular use. By means of a triple vaccine children can be immunised against diphtheria, whooping cough and tetanus simultaneously and oral poliomyelitis vaccine can be administered at the same time.

### **3. Dysentery and Food Poisoning.**

There were no notified cases of food poisoning during the year.

The cases of dysentery both occurred in one family towards the end of 1968, but they were notified early in January, 1969.

### **4. Tuberculosis.**

One new case of respiratory tuberculosis was notified in 1969. No deaths were ascribed to this disease.

Since 1957 vaccination against tuberculosis has been carried out on school leavers after routine tuberculin skin testing.



## **5. Brucellosis.**

In rural areas some 90 per cent of all milk retailed is still sold as raw milk and the prejudice against pasteurised milk remains very strong. The detailed investigation of milk herds for the detection of individual animals infected with *Brucella Abortus* has again been conscientiously carried out by your public health inspectors. In the course of the last seven years this infection has been detected in 91 cows in Lancaster Rural District so that the risk of drinking raw milk from herds in this area cannot be treated lightly.

Although in the meantime pasteurisation of milk is the only safeguard to the consumer, there is the hope that the new scheme announced by the Minister of Agriculture Fisheries and Food in July, 1966 will lead to the establishment of *Brucella* free herds, and eventually complete eradication with compensation for the slaughter of infected animals.

## **6. Trend of Incidence of Infectious Disease, 1945-1968.**

The table overleaf shows the average number of cases of infectious diseases notified in quinquennial periods from 1945.

## **7. Immunisation and Vaccination Schemes.**

Under the National Health Service a comprehensive free service for immunisation and vaccination of the public is available. Protection against diphtheria, whooping cough, measles, tetanus, poliomyelitis, smallpox, and tuberculosis is available at the school clinics and child welfare centres. This service is also available from family doctors, except for vaccination against tuberculosis.

Whilst on the whole the local response to these various preventative measures has been fairly well maintained, there is still much room for improvement.

# **Number of children resident in the area protected during 1969 against Diphtheria, Whooping Cough, Tetanus, Poliomylitis, and Measles**

	PRIMARY — BY YEAR OF BIRTH							RE-INFORCEMENT — BY YEAR OF BIRTH						
	1969	1968	1967	1966	1965 1962-	under 16 Others	Total	1969	1968	1967	1966	1965 1962-	under 16 Others	Total
Children protected against:—														
Diphtheria	4	94	4	5	8	—	115	—	19	89	11	265	9	393
Whooping Cough	3	85	3	1	4	—	96	—	7	23	2	8	1	41
Tetanus	4	94	4	5	8	—	115	—	19	89	10	268	41	427
Poliomylitis	1	104	12	5	7	2	131	—	4	6	1	191	7	209
Measles	1	24	15	21	26	1	88	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

**SECTION D.**

**SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES  
OF THE DISTRICT.  
ANNUAL REPORT OF THE  
CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR**



# Annual Report of the Chief Public Health Inspector upon the Sanitary Circumstances of the District

## HOUSING

### Completed Council Housing Schemes.

The Council's completed housing schemes provide accommodation as detailed below:—

Bolton-le-Sands	74 houses, 20 flats, and 10 bungalows.
Cockerham	10 houses.
Ellel	140 houses, 8 flats, 4 shops and houses and 10 bungalows.
Heaton-with-Oxcliffe	4 houses.
Middleton	56 houses and 2 shops and houses.
Overtton	16 houses.
Over Wyresdale	4 houses.
Priest Hutton	4 houses.
Scotforth	4 houses.
Silverdale	26 houses, 8 flats, and 6 bungalows.
Slyne-with-Hest	77 houses, 6 flats, 1 shop and house, and 5 bungalows.
Thurnham	22 houses.
Warton	76 houses, 16 flats, and 6 bungalows.
Yealand Redmayne	28 houses, and 5 bungalows.

Total 541 houses, 58 flats, 7 shops and houses, and 42 bungalows.

Total number of all dwellings:—648.

### Current Council Housing Schemes.

At the end of 1969, there were no Council housing schemes either in hand or contemplated, there being at that time a total of 89 applicants for houses, flats or bungalows and 25 such applicants were housed during the year.

### Private Buildings.

	1965	1966	1967	1968	1969
Ashton-with-Stodday	1	1	NIL	NIL	NIL
Bolton-le-Sands	76	34	34	31	23
Cockerham	6	4	1	3	3
Ellel	28	30	24	11	2
Heaton-with-Oxcliffe	2	1	NIL	NIL	NIL
Middleton	1	NIL	5	5	NIL
Overtton	25	28	1	1	6
Over Wyresdale	1	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL
Priest Hutton	1	1	1	NIL	NIL
Scotforth	NIL	1	NIL	NIL	NIL
Silverdale	12	15	26	19	9
Slyne-with-Hest	64	38	24	19	7



Thurnham	.....	.....	.....	NIL	1	NIL	4	4
Warton	.....	.....	.....	64	44	20	11	12
Yealand Conyers	.....	.....	.....	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	1
Yealand Redmayne	.....	.....	.....	4	2	NIL	NIL	2

At the end of December, 1969, it is estimated that a further 60 properties were in the course of construction.

### Inspections of Dwelling Houses.

Number of houses inspected under the provisions of the Housing Acts.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	248
Number of inspections involved .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	581
Number of houses found not in all respects fit .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	15
Number rendered fit after service of Notice .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	15
Number found to be unfit for human habitation .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	NIL
Number demolished as a result of formal or informal action .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	NIL
Number closed as a result of formal or informal action.	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	NIL

**Overcrowding.** Nothing can be added to what has been said in previous years, overcrowding no longer presenting a serious problem. It is likely, of course, that an isolated case will be discovered from time to time, and it is felt that such cases should receive high priority when a Council house in the locality becomes available for letting.

### Slum Clearance

The Ministry of Housing and Local Government in Circular 92/69 dated the 24th November, 1969, requested all Local Housing Authorities to consider what they could and ought to be doing to clear remaining slums, and to inform him what their programmes for the next 4 years were to be.

It was felt that, having regard to the extent of which house owners in general in this District already have taken advantage of Improvement Grants, and the fact that, as far as can be ascertained, all dwelling houses within the District which have not so far been modernised, are worthy of improving, thus they cannot be regarded as slum property. Therefore a NIL return was made regarding any programme of action during the next 4 years. Any individual unfit house that may come to light will be dealt with as the law permits, by the serving of a Time and Place Notice in the first place.

Over 100 unfit houses have been dealt with formally under the provisions of the various Housing Acts since the War, and there can be no question that Improvement Grants have played an important part in the preservation of many dwellings, which otherwise would have been subject to demolition orders or closing orders.

## **Improvement of Houses.**

The definite fall of applications for Improvement Grants which occurred during 1968, continued at the same level until August, 1969, when, with the coming into operation of the Housing Act, 1969, there was an appreciable increase. This increased rate of applications made for Improvement Grants may well go on for some time, although it is emphasised that, bearing in mind the fact that the number of houses on the District without Standard Amenities is becoming less each year, and also the fact that in most cases there is some very real reason for the delay in making such an application, then clearly these two factors eventually will re-assert themselves as the most important ones which are likely to affect the rate of progress. These real reasons for delay include the reluctance for change on the part of an ageing tenant or owner/occupier, the existing family circumstances demanding the use of every bedroom for the time being and the deliberate phasing over a number of years in the case of certain comparatively large estates of tenanted property such as those at Millhead and at Dolphinholme. Undoubtedly there are exceptions, but nevertheless, I feel it is true to say that, we are coming to the stage when, in most cases, only a change of occupancy, or changed circumstances affecting that occupancy, would bring about the desired result, in the modernisation of the particular dwelling involved.

The coming into operation of the Housing Act, 1969, brought new benefits to house owners in so far as, in respect of Standard Grants, the total normal maximum amount was increased from £155 to £200 per house and the higher limit Grants were increased to a maximum of £450 per house. These latter Grants are applicable in any one of the following circumstances :—

1. If it is necessary to provide a bathroom either by building an extension or converting an outbuilding.
2. If main drainage is not available and it thus becomes necessary to construct a septic tank.
3. If in order to carry out the Standard Improvement, it becomes necessary to provide for the first time a piped water supply.

As regards Discretionary Grants the statutory maximum was raised from £400 per house to £1,000 per house, although as you are aware, this Authority decided that the maximum Discretionary Grant would be raised to £600 per house. It should be mentioned



also, that for the first time, certain works of repair may be regarded as Grant earning, providing that the costs of repairs or replacements are not more than half of the total approved expense.

The following details summarise the applications for grants and the payments of grants during 1969.

**1. Discretionary Grants.**

Total number of applications received	.....	.....	.....	23
Total number of applications approved	.....	.....	.....	23
Total amount of Grants approved	.....	.....	.....	£5058
Average amount per dwelling	.....	.....	.....	£350
Completed Discretionary Grant schemes	.....	.....	.....	15
Total amount of Grants paid	.....	.....	.....	£4950
Average amount per dwelling	.....	.....	.....	£330

**2. Standard Grants.**

Total number of applications received	.....	.....	.....	20
Total number of applications approved	.....	.....	.....	20
Schemes completed	.....	.....	.....	23
Total amount of Standard Grants paid	.....	.....	.....	£3284
Average amount per dwelling	.....	.....	.....	£143

**Housing General.**

It is estimated that there are now within the District approximately 6,279 inhabited dwellings compared with 6,211 at the end of 1968. Of these, there are 4,279 or thereabouts which have been built since the Great War, practically all of which are equipped with modern amenities such as bathrooms, hot water supplies and internal W.C.'s. Of the remaining 2,000 dwellings, it is estimated that there are now approximately 340 dwellings without these amenities. These latter are almost all stone built with the exception of the greater part of Millhead in the Parish of Warton and certain houses comprising part of Main Road, Galgate in the Parish of Ellel, which are brick built, so that it can be stated that they are almost all substantial buildings well worthy of improvement.



## WATER SUPPLIES

The following Authorities supply water in the district:—

**Lune Valley Water Board.** Lune Valley Water Board supplies the parishes of Scotforth, Slyne-with-Hest, Bolton-le-Sands, Middleton, Overton, Ellel, Priest Hutton, Yealand Conyers, Yealand Redmayne, Silverdale, Warton and Heaton-with-Oxcliffe, and part of Ashton-with-Stodday.

**Fylde Water Board.** Supplies the parishes of Cockerham, Thurnham and part of Ashton-with-Stodday.

Part of the parish of Over Wyresdale is supplied by private mains which are the property of the Earl of Sefton.

**Origin and particulars of Water.** Lune Valley Water Board (the parishes of Scotforth, Slyne-with-Hest, Bolton-le-Sands, Middleton, Overton, part of Ashton-with-Stodday and Heaton-with-Oxcliffe). The water supplied in these parishes is either moorland water from the gathering grounds in Over Wyresdale, which is subjected to mechanical filtration and chlorination at Langthwaite and Scotforth filter houses before distribution, or obtained from the Thirlmere pipe line. This latter water is from moorlands and of about 2 degrees of hardness, being subjected to rough screening and chlorination near its source. The only exception to the above detail is in respect of certain mains carrying raw water from either of the gathering grounds of the reservoirs supplying the Littlefell Lane area of Scotforth, or from the reservoirs to the filterhouse supplying Bailrigg Lane area in the same parish.

Lune Valley Water Board (parishes of Ellel, Priest Hutton, Yealand Conyers, Yealand Redmayne, Silverdale and a small part of Warton). This water is also obtained from the Thirlmere pipe line.

Lune Valley Water Board (Warton parish). The water supplied to the Warton parish is obtained from the Reservoir at Withets. The gathering ground is of a moorland nature but is liable to animal pollution. The board however provides an effective chlorination and filtration plant, and there is also a connection to the Thirlmere pipe line.

**Fylde Water Board.** This is also moorland water from the gathering grounds in the Pennine Range, and is subjected to chlorination and filtration before distribution.

**New Services.** During the year 73 services were laid to new dwellings. A mains supply is now provided to 6,186 dwellings, being about 98 per cent of all the dwellings in the district. The remaining 149 houses, etc., obtain supplies from other sources such as roof water, wells and springs.



# WATER SAMPLES, 1969

<i>Date</i>	<i>Address</i>	<i>Result</i>
Jan. 1969	Manor Crescent, Slyne-with-Hest	Highly Satisfactory
"	Stainton Street, Millhead, Warton	Highly Satisfactory
"	Main Street, Warton	Highly Satisfactory
"	Silverdale Road, Yealand Redmayne	Highly Satisfactory
"	Railway Place, Glasson Dock, Thurnham	Highly Satisfactory
"	Bailrigg Lane, Scotforth (Untreated Supply)	Unsatisfactory
Mar. 1969	Pinewood Avenue, Bolton-le-Sands	Highly Satisfactory
"	Stainton Street, Millhead, Warton	Highly Satisfactory
"	Main Street, Warton	Highly Satisfactory
"	Silverdale Road, Yealand Redmayne	Highly Satisfactory
"	Manor Crescent, Slyne-with-Hest	Highly Satisfactory
"	Corless Cottages, Dolphinholme, Ellel	Highly Satisfactory
"	Main Street, Cockerham	Highly Satisfactory
"	Conder Cottages, Ashton-with-Stodday	Highly Satisfactory
"	The Square, Galgate, Ellel	Highly Satisfactory
"	Westover Avenue, Warton	Highly Satisfactory
Apr. 1969	Silverdale Road, Yealand Redmayne	Highly Satisfactory
"	Main Street, Warton	Highly Satisfactory
"	Stainton Street, Millhead, Warton	Highly Satisfactory
"	Pinewood Avenue, Bolton-le-Sands	Highly Satisfactory
May 1969	Beech Avenue, Galgate	Highly Satisfactory
"	Hall Grove, Middleton	Highly Satisfactory
"	Pedder Road, Overton	Highly Satisfactory
"	Conder Green, Ashton-with-Stodday	Highly Satisfactory
"	Lower Dolphinholme, Ellel	Highly Satisfactory
June 1969	Main Street, Warton	Highly Satisfactory
"	Silverdale Road, Yealand Conyers	Highly Satisfactory
"	Main Street, Bolton-le-Sands	Highly Satisfactory
"	Stainton Street, Millhead, Warton	Highly Satisfactory
July 1969	Manor Crescent, Slyne-with-Hest	Highly Satisfactory
"	Main Road, Bolton-le-Sands	Highly Satisfactory
"	Stainton Street, Millhead, Warton	Highly Satisfactory
"	Main Street, Warton	Highly Satisfactory
"	Silverdale Road, Yealand Conyers	Highly Satisfactory
"	Main Road, Galgate, Ellel	Highly Satisfactory
"	Dolphinholme Village, Ellel	Highly Satisfactory
"	Main Street, Cockerham	Highly Satisfactory
"	Conder Green, Ashton-with-Stodday	Highly Satisfactory
Sept. 1969	Stainton Street, Millhead, Warton	Highly Satisfactory
"	Manor Crescent, Slyne-with-Hest	Highly Satisfactory
"	Main Street, Warton	Highly Satisfactory
"	Silverdale Road, Yealand Conyers	Highly Satisfactory
"	Main Road, Bolton-le-Sands	Highly Satisfactory
Oct 1969	Main Road, Bolton-le-Sands	Highly Satisfactory
"	Manor Crescent, Slyne-with-Hest	Highly Satisfactory
"	Silverdale Road, Yealand Conyers	Highly Satisfactory
Nov. 1969	Hall Grove, Middleton	Highly Satisfactory
"	Conder Green, Ashton-with-Stodday	Highly Satisfactory
"	Lancaster Road, Overton	Highly Satisfactory
"	Beech Avenue, Galgate, Ellel	Highly Satisfactory
"	Dolphinholme Village, Ellel	Highly Satisfactory
"	Victoria Terrace, Glasson Dock, Thurnham	Highly Satisfactory
"	Manor Crescent, Slyne-with-Hest	Highly Satisfactory
"	Well Lane, Yealand Redmayne	Highly Satisfactory
"	Main Street, Bolton le-Sands	Highly Satisfactory
"	Main Street, Warton	Unsatisfactory
"	Stainton Street, Millhead, Warton	Unsatisfactory
Dec. 1969	Silverdale Road, Yealand Redmayne	Highly Satisfactory
"	William Street, Millhead, Warton	Highly Satisfactory
"	Greenwood Avenue, Bolton-le-Sands	Highly Satisfactory
"	Manor Crescent, Slyne-with-Hest	Highly Satisfactory
"	Main Street, Warton	Unsatisfactory



The laboratory reports of samples of the water supplied by the two Water Boards, once again, were almost entirely satisfactory, and in the case of the Fylde Water Board the excellent record of recent years was maintained and every sample taken from the area supplied by that Board was reported highly satisfactory.

In my report for 1968, mention was made of serious complaints which had been received during that year regarding the insufficiency or total lack at certain times of Lune Valley Water Board supplies to certain parts of Bolton-le-Sands, Slyne-with-Hest, Silverdale and Warton. As regards the first two Parishes, it would appear that the works which were then in progress and were in fact completed during the early part of 1969, had the desired effect in so far as no further complaints of this nature were received even during the peak caravan period of the year. Mention was also made of the fact that it was found during the 1968 season that the water supply demand of a caravan site at Bolton-le-Sands, at certain times of day at bank holidays and other weekends exceeded the supply so causing both the camp and neighbouring householders to be without water. The work involved in the installation of suitable tanks, which are ball valve fed during the slack periods, and feed by gravity the camp installations during the peak periods, was completed in time for the late Spring Holiday and the scheme was in operation for the remainder of the Season, again apparently with complete success.

In regard to Silverdale, this old standing complaint concerned shortage of supply or total lack of supply to certain comparatively elevated properties in the Parish, particularly when some burst or other abnormal draw-off had occurred. The frequency of such an eventuality is increased by two factors, these being (1) the considerable length of the single supply main from the Borwick Meter House through the Parishes of Priest Hutton, Yealand Conyers and Yealand Redmayne and (2) the increased Summer population of the Parish and hence the increased draw-off at certain periods of the day. The Lune Valley Water Board have prepared a Scheme, entailing the construction of a storage reservoir on an elevated site on Wallings Lane, which, when completed will ensure a constant supply to all properties during such crisis periods as described above. It is understood that this land has been acquired by the Board, that Ministry approval of the scheme has been obtained and that Tenders for the work are being obtained, so that there is every likelihood of a physical start being made upon the work in the near future.



The complaint concerning Warton was mainly in respect of shortage of supply to properties on various high points in the locality, notably Coach Road, part of Croftlands and The Roods. During the year the following works have been completed, all of which would help to alleviate this unsatisfactory situation:—

(a) Cleansing, scraping and lining of the main from Pedder Pots Reservoir to the Filter House at Carnforth.

(b) Cleansing, scraping and lining the main from the Filter House at Millhead.

(c) Installation of new booster pump of increased capacity in the Warton Pump House.

(d) New main of increased capacity laid along Coach Road to the storage reservoir.

#### **Assistance in Provision of Separate Water Services for Houses.**

Section 96 of the Housing Act, 1964 gave power to a Local Authority, if they think fit, to give assistance in respect of the provision of a separate water service pipe for a house which has a piped supply of water from a water main, but no separate service pipe. Since this legislation became operative, the following numbers of dwelling houses in the District have so benefited at an average cost of £20 per house, which qualifies for an average grant of £10 per house, on the basis of the grant being 50% of the final costs of the work, under normal circumstances.

1965	—	3 Dwelling Houses
1966	—	10 Dwelling Houses
1967	—	9 Dwelling Houses
1968	—	8 Dwelling Houses
1969	—	2 Dwelling Houses
<hr/>		
Total	—	32 Dwelling Houses
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## SEWERAGE AND DRAINAGE

The Public Health Department is indebted to the Surveyor for the following information relating to the methods of drainage and sewage disposal:—

**Cockerham.** Cockerham village and Housing site is sewered and the sewage treated by means of a septic tank and rotary filter. The effluent is pumped from the works via a 4ins. diam. rising main, direct to the tidal River Cocker. This method of disposal of the effluent was brought into operation in mid-January 1958. The Sewage Disposal Works at Cockerham, is seriously overloaded, and consistently produces effluents which have overall very polluting characteristics and is only tolerated by reason of the discharge being to tidal waters. It will be necessary eventually to extend the works, or alternatively reconstruct and enlarge each unit of the works.

**Thurnham (Higher Thurnham).** The sewage from the few houses in this hamlet is discharged into a number of separate tanks, the effluents eventually finding their way into drainage dykes. No complaints regarding pollution of the dykes have been received and no such pollution has been noted.

**Thurnham (Lower Thurnham).** This hamlet is sewered, and as far as can be ascertained, there is no treatment of the sewage prior to its discharge into a drainage dyke. Nevertheless, observations over a long period have not indicated that the contamination of the dyke is of anything but a minor nature. This opinion is agreed by the Lancashire River Authority inspector, and, at least for the present, there is no evidence to justify any action being taken against the owner of this private sewerage system.

**Thurnham (Glasson Dock), and Ellel (Galgate).** Glasson Dock is sewered by two separate systems and sewage is discharged crude into the sea via two outfalls.

Galgate is sewered and the sewage is conveyed by means of a long pipe discharging in the tidal portion of the River Conder at Conder Green.



In each instance the effluent is seriously polluting in character and the 9" diameter outfall from Galgate, laid to a very flat gradient, is inadequate for the flow. This sewer requires frequent attention and to facilitate maintenance four new manholes have been constructed on its length.

The ultimate form of development of Glasston Dock and Galgate requires determination before the final scheme for sewerage and sewage treatment can be designed.

**Dolphinholme** is sewered and the sewage treated by means of a septic tank near Common Bank Farm, and two rotary percolating filters and humus tank by the side of the River Wyre.

**Dolphinholme Sewage Disposal Works.** Apart from one occasion during the year when a slight excess of suspended solids concentration was observed, the final effluent has been of excellent quality. The latest analysis shows the River Authority's qualitative conditions of consent to be complied with.

These works were constructed during 1967 and it was then hoped that on site trenching of the humus sludge produced would prove to be a satisfactory means of drainage and disposal for a period of some years at least, and so avoid the cost of drying beds and removal, but in practice the sludge is not drying and has resulted in most of the available trenching area having now been used and creating a morass which tends to be washed to the river in heavy rainfall. Matters are not helped by the site being a far from ideal location for evaporative drying of any sludge, and with gravel clarifiers being used the humus sludge containing a higher proportion of fines than would normally be the case. The position will have to be corrected and investigations made to determine the most economically satisfactory solution, but during the year control has been achieved by the mounting of a sludge pump and tank on an old refuse vehicle chassis and removal by this means of the Sludge to tip disposal.

**Over Wyresdale.** This Parish being of a scattered nature (1 person to 45 acres) has no drainage system, and no pollution has been found.

**Middleton.** Most of the developed part of this Parish is now sewered. All sewers from the village drain to the pumping station near Garden Terrace, which ejects the sewage through a rising main and gravity sewer to the sewage treatment works at Middleton Tower Holiday Camp. These works were acquired from the Holiday Camp and adopted as a public sewage disposal works in May 1946.



The effluent from these works, together with some storm water, is pumped via a 6in. diameter rising main into the 18in. diameter sea outfall pipe of an adjoining factory under a terminable agreement, which limits the daily maximum volume of discharge.

This factor and present serious overloading of the treatment works which are also difficult to maintain and in need of considerable repairs are matters of concern to the Council who have resolved that a scheme be proceeded with to provide new pumping equipment at both Middleton and Overton villages with the required rising mains to new settling tanks, and an effluent outfall to be located near to Overton, and design work is now in hand together with arrangements to purchase the land required for the settling tanks, a sufficient area to accommodate a full treatment plant being acquired. Pumps and rising mains are to be in permanent installation and will be eventually linked to permanent treatment plant, irrespective of location, but the settling tanks are a temporary provision and together with comminution prior to storage will be designed to provide a controlled discharge satisfactory to the Lancashire River Authority to the dyke system at Overton.

The scheme will relieve the Middleton Works from the all year round pressure from both villages but temporarily retain the Holiday Camp on the Middleton Works during its 18 week season and enable investigations to proceed into possible separation of surface water from the foul sewers in the camp in view of the connection of this with the design of pumps and rising mains.

As in past years in heavy rainfall there has been overflowing of sewage at Garden Terrace Pumping Station, Middleton, and also in the vicinity of the treatment works, due to overloading of the pumps at these locations, and attention when such danger seems imminent is provided as a routine duty.

**Heaton-with Oxcliffe.** All the dwellings in this Parish are separately drained into some form of septic tank, usually provided with a filter compartment. In most cases, however, the only means of disposal of the effluent is by discharging into the open drainage dykes, as the land is far too heavy to allow effective soakage. Furthermore, owing to the level of the water in the dykes, proper downward filtration is rarely possible, and the filter beds mostly are submerged, and merely acting as mechanical filters. As a result, the dykes are frequently silted up with humus and require constant attention from the many owners involved in order to maintain them in a reasonable condition.

As the above conditions cause serious concern to the Council and the Pollution Division of the Lancashire River Authority, and are aggravated in certain combinations of rainfall and high tide, when Oxcliffe Dyke cannot freely discharge to the River Lune, the following proposals are under consideration with a hope of collaboration by the Borough of Morecambe and Heysham in an endeavour to improve the situation.

1. Pump control, possibly by screw pumps, of Oxcliffe Dyke to lift all water above a pre-determined level over the breast wall when the tidal flaps are closed, the operation level to be set to safeguard the affected properties.
2. Instead of all roof water going into foul sewers and so increasing sewer sizes and also having to be pumped at all times, and only road water going to Oxcliffe Dyke, in the large areas off Westgate now with outline approval, all to go to Oxcliffe Dyke other than an allowance of roof water for flushing the foul sewers if considered necessary.
3. Resulting from the reduced flow in the Westgate foul sewers by the acceptance of (2), the possibility of discharging to these sewers the small volume of foul sewage from existing properties and the very minor area considered for further development in the Rural District in this vicinity.
4. The possibility of the pumping station in (1) being paid for by all developers who add any surface water in future to Oxcliffe Dyke.

Despite protests made against large scale development which would increase surface water run-off to Oxcliffe Dyke being permitted in the Westgate area of Morecambe and Heysham, approval has been given for further building to be proceeded with/without control conditions on Oxcliffe Dyke, in a manner such as detailed above being imposed. In connection with this it is of interest that in Circular 94/69 dated the 12th December, 1969, the Ministry of Housing and Local Government expresses concern over this very problem of development being permitted with planning permission and creating problems of flooding in down-stream areas.

**Overton.** Most of the village is sewered, and the sewage is pumped to the Middleton treatment works, and all the above matters relating to proposals for Middleton apply to Overton.

No serious difficulties have been experienced in the sewage system for the village, and at Sunderland Point in this parish, there are a few private outfall pipes discharging direct into the tidal River Lune.



**Scotforth.** This Parish is also of a scattered nature (1 person to 8½ acres) and has no drainage system.

**Ashton-with-Stodday.** There is no sewage scheme for this Parish which has only 36 properties in it.

**Slyne-with-Hest.** The greatest part of this parish is sewered and the sewage is fully treated at the disposal works at Hest Bank. A good standard of purification is maintained, the effluent on analysis complying with the Lancashire River Authority's qualitative conditions of consent.

Some difficulty has been experienced, however, in the drying out of primary sludge, this not being satisfactory after up to three months on some drying beds. A very satisfactory "on site" laboratory investigation on chemical conditioning of the sludge was made which not only showed that adequate drying could be obtained in a fortnight, but that total annual costs would not exceed the present costs of lifting and removal. Unfortunately the present size of the beds are such that sludge would have to be retained in the settling tanks for a week to obtain a sufficient volume which would give the required depth on the beds for efficient conditioning. As there is a possibility that holding back sludge for a week could cause disturbance in the filters which might not be apparent for a considerable time and then may be very expensive to correct, it is considered too hazardous to use this economical answer to the problem and therefore it is intended to continue to keep the matter under observation.

At Sunningdale Crescent pumping station one of the two ejectors has been taken out and a wet well constructed in which a new submersible pump has been installed.

This has proved to be most efficient and silently deals with the extremely large volume of infiltration and surface water which used to have both ejectors running continuously at times at this station and resulted in complaints about the noise.

The remaining ejector, now on relief and stand-by, is to be replaced with a second submersible pump to secure full reliability at the station.

**Bolton-le-Sands.** The greater part of this Parish is sewered, the sewage being discharged crude into the mill race channel on the tidal foreshore at the end of St. Nicholas Lane. This outlet is not up to the modern standards of sewage disposal, and during 1959 representations were made by the Lancashire River Board, regarding this discharge of crude sewage.



As a result of the Ministry's disapproval in 1961 of the scheme for a disposal works off St. Nicholas Lane, the Council decided to instruct the Consulting Engineer to prepare a joint sewerage and sewage disposal scheme for the parishes of Bolton-le-Sands and Warton and the Urban District of Carnforth.

The scheme provides for three main pumping stations and six subsidiary stations. Of the larger stations, one at Warton south of the Shovel Inn will pump via a rising main to the gravity sewers at Millhead. At Millhead a larger station will deal with the sewage flow from Warton and Carnforth, pumping the sewage to the proposed disposal works. The third major station at St. Nicholas Lane will deal with the flow of sewage from Bolton-le-Sands. The subsidiary stations will sewer groups of properties, at present on septic tanks, such as Sand Lane, Warton and Coastal Road, Bolton-le-Sands.

The contract for this major scheme which includes gravity sewers, pumping mains, pumping stations and a new sewage treatment works sited at Crag Bank, Carnforth, was let to Messrs. C. V. Buchan & Co. Ltd., of Macclesfield at a tender price of £716,208 7s. 8d., and the starting date for the works was the 1st October, 1968 with a programmed date for completion on the 30th September, 1970, but which will probably be exceeded by some three months.

The Rural District Council proportion of the tender price is £524,210 0s. 4d., and the total estimated cost to the Council, inclusive of land, easements, compensations, fees and expenses, etc., is £568,445 7s. 0d. In the Rural District the scheme provides for full modern treatment for sewage from 1,998 existing properties now discharging to tidal waters and 182 existing properties to be served for the first time. With future development within the area served by the scheme some 3,000 properties may ultimately be connected.

Excluded from connection are ten dwellings and four caravan sites having 58 water closets, these being located between the railway and the coast in the parish of Bolton-le-Sands and here the existing arrangement of septic tank treatment will continue.

**Warton.** The Millhead portion of Warton is sewered and the sewage disposed of to the Carnforth Works. The remainder of the Parish, with the exception of the Western end of Sands Lane, is also sewered and disposed of crude into the semi-tidal waters of the River Keer.

As mentioned above the sewage from this parish will be dealt with in the combined Bolton-le-Sands, Carnforth, Warton scheme. A brief outline of this scheme, as it affects the parish of Warton is as follows:—

The sewage from a main collecting manhole, near the “Shovel Inn,” will be pumped to a station at Millhead. An ancillary pumping station will serve Sands Lane. The sewage from the Millhead portion of Warton will be pumped from a proposed station, on the southerly side of the River Keer, together with the sewage from the whole of the Carnforth Urban District, to the Works.

**Yealand Conyers.** There are no public sewers in this small Parish. The largest group of houses, are, however, drained into a septic tank with rotary percolating filter. No pollution of water courses takes place. Several cesspools are emptied by the Council at the request of the owners and the contents disposed of on the land.

**Yealand Redmayne.** The Housing Site and part of the village is sewered to a disposal tank, which drains into a duplicate system of land drains.

A new effluent disposal area was brought into use during 1955 and it would appear that what had become a very difficult problem before that date, has been successfully overcome.

**Priest Hutton.** There is no public drainage system for this Parish. All the property is drained into cesspools or septic tanks and filters.

All but four houses in this Parish have been provided with modern septic tank drainage systems, and pollution of the stream is now less evident.

**Silverdale.** The whole of Silverdale being built on solid rock, has no public sewers, with the exception of the systems draining the Council Housing Sites and a few properties adjoining. In the great majority of cases each house has its own Septic Tank or Cesspool, and regular arrangements exist for emptying the cesspools and disposing of the contents onto land. This arrangement in the past has proved very satisfactory but in recent years some concern has been expressed over the practise of disposing of Septic Tank effluents into surface water through the fissures in the limestone strata throughout Silverdale. As a result the University of Lancaster was asked whether an investigation into this matter could be of interest in connection with their field studies. The University has co-operated and their representative has promised to try to produce permeability grids which would give the rate and direction of percolation of sub-soil waters for the area.



If successful this information will be of immense value, particularly in relation to the remaining areas to be developed at Silverdale, and the enthusiastic help and assistance given by the University is greatly appreciated.

A most thorough preliminary report has been prepared and the remaining investigation should be completed by 1971.

### **GENERAL.**

There are 5,975 houses on the water carriage system, 4,214 being connected to the sewers and 1,761 to septic tanks, cesspools, etc. There are also 50 houses which have closets other than water closets.

Grant aided improvement works continued to add to the number of closet conversions carried out during 1969. Thus, by the year end 16 such conversions had been completed, all of which involved the construction of a septic tank system of sewage disposal.

### **DRAINAGE INSPECTIONS**

(a) **New Drainage.** 154 visits of inspections of new drainage work and proposed drainage work were made during the year, all these visits being concerned with septic tank drainage or trial holes in connection with proposed septic tanks. The supervision of which remains the responsibility of this Department.

(b) **Existing Drainage.** During 1969, the assistance of your Inspectors was required on 251 occasions, most of these visits being requested where a nuisance had been caused by some defect in the drainage arrangements. As stated in my report for 1968, it is anticipated that such requests will be considerably reduced when the Bolton-le-Sands, Warton and Carnforth combined Scheme has been completed, and in this connection, once again it is pleasing to note the excellent progress that has been achieved by the Surveyor during the year, details of which appear in his Annual Report. The visits referred to above were apart from the many occasions when blocked drains and other matters requiring rectification were attended to by Public Health Department workmen as routine duties. These services have been much appreciated by those ratepayers who have needed them, and it is considered that the excellent reputation, that has been built up over the years by these loyal and hard working servants of the Council, should not go unapplauded.

### **REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL**

One new vehicle, a Karrier "Bantam" Dual Tip Junior Model with Packer Plate, was brought into use at the beginning of July when it has been serving the Silverdale and Northern



Rural Round. This vehicle, which replaced the seven cubic yard side loader, has proved ideal for the purpose, it having a turning circle of 32 feet, an overall width of 6ft. 10 inches, a maximum height of 8ft. 9 inches and a loading capacity of 12 cu. yards. This additional loading capacity has meant in fact that the previous maximum load of 110 bins has been increased to 170 bins, so enabling a higher degree of efficiency to be attained.

During the year under review improvements as detailed, have been carried out or work is in progress at the following refuse tips :—

1. Cote Stones Tip, Warton. Garage erected to accommodate the tractor, so very considerably reducing its wear and tear in time spent on the road and at the same time increasing its productive time spent on the tip.

Construction of a Septic Tank intended to receive the drainage from the W.C. which it is proposed to instal at the canteen, in place of the existing dry lavatory.

2. Parkside Tip, Ellel. Erection of new fencing.

3. Mainstones Quarry Tip, Ellel. Restriction of tipping face and commencement of finger tipping.

4. Sunderland Point Tip. Erection of new fencing. Restriction of tipping face and commencement of finger tipping.

By far the most notable feature of 1969, in regard to refuse collection, was the final agreement obtained from all parties concerned in respect of an incentive bonus scheme for the refuse collectors. The successful outcome of these negotiations, which commenced towards the end of March was given official approval just in time to make the scheme operative with effect from 1st August, 1969, although as had been anticipated, it took some 3 or 4 months to bring the scheme up to 100% efficiency. During this period of teething troubles, approximately 60% of the District enjoyed a much improved service, the targets being regularly attained by the respective crews, whilst in the case of the remaining 40%, whilst the rate of collection speeded up so as to almost totally obviate any complaints from householders, the crews were missing their targets almost fractionally week after week.

It is most pleasing to be able to report, as I have already stated, that 100% success is now being attained, as far as physical limitations such as the weather and restricted hours of daylight will allow.

**SANITARY INSPECTIONS** (excluding visits made in connection with Housing Act matters as detailed on Page 24.)

Premises visited or purpose of visit	No. of visits
Houses, Public Health Act matters	149
Re Water supplies	86
Re Drains and Sewers	405
Re Infectious Disease	46
Caravan Sites	132
Factories and Workshops	39
Ice Cream Premises	109
Milk Samples	58
Other Food Premises	399
Shops Act Inspections	11
Visits re Offices, Shops and Railway Premises	
Act 1963	65
Miscellaneous Visits	892
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Total number of Visits	2,394
Number of defects or nuisances discovered	201
Number of defects remedied or nuisances abated	198
Number of Informal Notices served	120
Number of Formal Notices served	NIL
Legal Proceedings	NIL

**CARAVAN SITES**

Regarding Licensed Caravan Sites within the District, there were considerably improved amenities provided at Ocean Edge Caravan Park, Middleton; Cockerham Sands Caravan Park, Cockerham; Detron Gate Farm, Bolton-le-Sands and Sandside Farm, Bolton-le-Sands, and once again very little trouble was experienced in the supervision of such licensed sites. There are on the District seventeen caravan sites of more than five caravans, involving a total of 1,648 caravans, all these sites being licensed under The Caravan Sites and Control of Development Act 1960, subject to the Council's 1960 conditions, based upon the model standards issued by the Minister. In addition to these, there are seventeen sites of five caravans or less, involving a further 58 caravans, which had been granted licences subject to the reduced standards, so that the total number of caravans that can be accommodated on licensed sites in the District is now 1,706.

One trend that has been noticeable in recent years and more particularly in 1969, was the increased popularity of the truly touring caravan. I think that most of the site operators would confirm that many of the tented campers of yester-year



have graduated into caravaners of this type. It appears pertinent therefore, to express the view that, when any future legislation that might be considered with a view to improving the standards of tented camping sites, and so bringing them more into line with the standards of control of caravan site, that have existed since the coming into operation of 1960 Act, there would seem to be very little reason to differentiate between tents and touring caravans. Both these classes of moveable dwellings are clearly of the "here today and gone tomorrow" type, and are a very different proposition from the static caravans, which occupy most of the pitches on sites within the District year in year out, summer and winter alike. This is a subject which obviously needs a deal of thought and consideration, but it can be stated that were such combined camping and touring caravan sites have been tried out, they appear to have operated in a successful manner with the very definite advantage of the landscape remaining totally unspoiled for more than half the year.

Details of the main sites licensed are given below:—

Name of site	No. of Caravans Licensed
Ocean Edge Park Caravan Site, Middleton	613
	(483 in Lancaster R.D.)
Morecambe Lodge, Bolton-le-Sands .....	186
Shorefields Caravan Site, Middleton Sands	110
Cockerham Sands Caravan Park, Cockerham	240
Scout Crag Caravan Site, Warton .....	145
Vickers Holiday Camp, Heaton-with-Oxcliffe	90
	(In Lancaster R.D.)
Old Glasson Farm, Thurnham .....	75
Bolton Holmes Farm, Bolton-le-Sands .....	64
Red Bank Farm, Bolton-le-Sands .....	38
Detron Gate Farm, Bolton-le-Sands .....	60
Bottomdale, Slyne .....	34
Bottoms Farm, Silverdale .....	15
Shorefields, Slyne-with-Hest .....	15
Glen Cottage, Green Lane, Heaton-with-Oxcliffe	14
Sandside Farm, Bolton-le-Sands .....	29
Bank End Farm, Cockerham .....	30
Ovangle Farm, Heaton-with-Oxcliffe .....	25



## SCHOOLS.

In my report of 1968 I made a comment that "only when all phases of the building programmes of the schools in question have been completed and all the pupils and teachers of each school are housed under one roof and served by the same standard of amenities can the accommodation be regarded as satisfactory in all respects". Progress towards this idealistic end, however modest it may appear to be, may be summarised as follows :—

1. Bolton-le-Sands, Church of England School, phase two of the building programme comprising the Main Hall and the Kitchen was completed early in 1969 and this Kitchen is now being used for both the infants and junior school cooking.

2. The first part of the new school intended for the infants section of the Archbishop Hutton School, Warton has now reached an advanced stage of construction and it is anticipated that it will be ready for occupation sometime during the summer of 1970.

3. Approval has been given to a scheme involving the provision of indoor toilet accommodation at Priest Hutton Church of England School, and it is to be hoped that this further improvement will be implemented during the coming year.

In addition to the above, it is understood that schemes for the provision of additional classroom accommodation at Slyn-with-Hest Church of England School, Bolton-le-Sands Church of England School and Galgate Church of England School are awaiting approval and again it is to be hoped that such approval will be forthcoming with a minimum of delay.

With regard to the proposed new school at Yealand Redmayne, no further progress can be reported, there being a lack of agreement on the important question of the site.

**Swimming Baths.** There are no public swimming baths in the district, but two are privately owned. Only one of these has been used in recent years, that at Middleton Tower Holiday Camp. There is continuous circulation of water at this bath, and a recently renewed chlorination plant.

Two samples of this bath water were taken during the height of the season and the results were in each case satisfactory.

**Smoke Abatement.** There are seven factory and works chimneys in the district (excluding Messrs. Trimpell Ltd., and I.C.I. Ltd.) and no action has been necessary regarding smoke abatement.

**Offensive Trades.** There are no offensive trades carried on in this district.

**Common Lodging Houses.** There is no Common Lodging House in the District.

**Underground Sleeping Rooms and Houses Let in Lodgings.** There are none in the district.

**Shops and Offices.** As from April, 1956, the routine inspection of premises under the provisions of the Shops Act, 1950, on behalf of the Lancashire County Council, was undertaken by the Council. Thus, in addition to matters dealt with directly, such as sanitary accommodation, ventilation and temperature, enquiries were made concerning the employment of young persons. During 1969, 11 such inspections and enquiries were carried out. By far the greater number of shops in the District are entirely family businesses with living accommodation attached to the business premises, and not involving the employment of any person other than members of the family.

**Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act 1963.** Most of the provisions of the Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act 1963 came into operation on the 1st August, 1964. From that date, the owner or occupier of any such premises was legally responsible for maintaining them in accordance with the standards laid down by the Act and the various regulations made under the Act. The standards referred to include the cleanliness, ventilation, sanitary conveniences, washing facilities, lighting, drinking water, storage of clothing, seating accommodation, the guarding of dangerous parts of machinery, the provision of first-aid box, working space, temperature, and fire precautions. The general provisions of the Act, other than fire precautions, are administered by the Local Authority except premises normally administered by the Factory Inspector and certain other exceptions.

During 1969, four additional premises were registered under the Act bringing, the total number of registered premises at the year end to 78, 65 of which received a general inspection. Copies of all these application forms have been forwarded to the Fire Authority.



# **FACTORIES ACT, 1961.**

Prescribed Particulars on the Administration of the Factories Act, 1961.

## **Part VIII of the Act**

1—INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Public Health Inspectors).

Premises (1)	Number of			
	Number on Register (2)	Inspections (3)	Written notices (4)	Occupiers prosecuted (5)
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities.	5	5	Nil	Nil
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority.	63	39	Nil	Nil
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises) ..... ..	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
<b>Total .....</b>	<b>68</b>	<b>44</b>	<b>Nil</b>	<b>Nil</b>



## 2—Cases in which DEFECTS were found.

(If defects are discovered at the premises on two, three or more separate occasions they should be reckoned as two, three or more “cases.”)

Particulars (1)	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted (6)
	Found (2)	Remedied (3)	Referred To H.M. Inspector (4)	By H.M. Inspector (5)	
Want of cleanliness (S.1) .....	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Overcrowding (S.2) .....	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Inadequate ventilation (S.4) .....	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)					
(a) Insufficient .....	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
(b) Unsuitable or defective .....	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
(c) Not separate for sexes .....	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Out-work) .....	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Total .....	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil

### Part 1 of the Act.

Out-work — None in the District.

(Sections 133 and 134)

## INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

All samples for bacteriological examination are sent to the Public Health Laboratory at Preston.

**MILK.** The systematic programme of sampling of milk distributed throughout the District was maintained during 1969.

A summary of the results of the various tests and examinations carried out during the year is given below:—

### (a) Raw Milk.

#### 1. Tuberculosis Biological Tests

No. of Samples .....	2
No. Positive .....	NIL
No. Negative .....	2

#### 2. Methylene Blue Reduction Test

No. of Samples .....	30
No. Satisfactory .....	25
No. Unsatisfactory .....	5

### (b) Heat Treated Milk

#### 1. Phosphatase Test

No. of Samples .....	6
No. Satisfactory .....	6
No. Unsatisfactory .....	NIL

#### 2. Methylene Blue Reduction Test

No. of Samples .....	6
No. Satisfactory .....	6
No. Unsatisfactory .....	NIL

#### 3. Turbidity Test

No. of Samples .....	4
No. Satisfactory .....	4
No. Unsatisfactory .....	NIL

Under the provisions of the Milk (Special Designation) Regulations 1960, which came into operation on the 1st October, 1960, all dealers' licences, other than those issued by the Minister, are issued by the Food and Drugs Authority for the area, i.e. The County Council. The registration of dairies other than Dairy Farms and of distributors of milk remains the responsibility of the District Council. There are in all 39 distributors of milk operating in the district, of which 17 are producer retailers, 12 are dairymen operating from premises in the district, 3 are shopkeepers in the district and 7 are distributors operating from premises outside the district.



In the case of all the samples of raw milk which failed the methylene blue reduction test, a repeat sample was taken and in all cases these were found to be satisfactory

In addition to the above routine samples, it was only found necessary to take individual cow samples for brucella abortus examination from eight cows of one particular herd, following an adverse report upon a sample of the bulk supply. These samples, together with eight repeat samples, were all reported negative by the laboratory, so that for the first time for seven years no infected animal supplying milk to be sold as raw milk was found within this District, and this in spite of the fact that there were 30 samples taken by this Authority as stated above. 38 samples taken by the Lancashire County Council and quite a number of samples taken by the Lancaster Corporation and Morecambe and Heysham Corporation. This would appear to indicate that the effects of the publicity given to the subject Brucellosis and the Brucellosis Eradication Campaign that was started in 1967 are reflected in these improved results. I give below a brief tabulated version of these latter results for each of the years 1963-1969 :—

Year	Number of cows discovered secreting infected milk	Number of Herds involved	Number of samples of milk from individual Cows which were required to be taken
1963	3	3	156
1964	35	9	275
1965	17	6	219
1966	16	6	343
1967	9	4	168
1968	11	6	321
1969	NIL	NIL	16

It will be of interest to note that of the 228 dairy herds within this District, 63 herds have been notified to this Department as having been registered as accredited herds under the Brucellosis Eradication Campaign.

**Ice Cream.** 109 visits of inspection were made during 1969 of the 53 premises in the District registered for the sale of ice cream and 1 for its manufacture and sale. Three samples were taken for bacteriological examination during the year, two of which were reported Grade 1 and the remaining one Grade 3.

**Meat Inspection.** There was no meat inspection carried out in the District during 1969, the only Slaughterhouse, that at Cockerham, which was partially operated during 1968, becoming totally disused during this current year and the licence has been allowed to lapse.

**SHRIMP PICKING.** Shrimp Picking was carried out at 25 of the premises registered for this purpose during the year and 25 visits of inspection were made to such premises in use. In all cases it was found that the regulations which are applicable, were being observed and no action was necessary.

### **OTHER FOOD PREMISES.**

During the year 399 visits were made to the various food premises in the District. There were no serious contraventions of the Food Hygiene Regulations noted, and where minor faults were discovered, they were dealt with successfully on the spot, usually but by means of giving necessary advice. It has been found that the average shopkeeper appreciates being informed of the lesser known details of current Public Health Law relating to his business, and with so much legislation being directed at both the employers and employees generally, they find it somewhat difficult to keep up-to-date.

The standard of equipment used and type of staff employed in connection with food premises are continuing to improve throughout the District, most probably as a result of competition which has the effect of dictating the way in which food must be displayed to satisfy the modern housewife. It is pleasing to note that the majority of small shopkeepers are aware and have been for some time, of this trend and generally they are keeping pace very well with their "big brothers" in spite of the high cost of the necessary equipment involved. There is definitely a more active interest by shoppers in hygienic practises in the small food shop, as the customers are now becoming used to the standards of presentation in the large nation wide stores and supermarkets, which they frequently visit.

This discerning attitude on the part of the general public is to be encouraged particularly when bad handling practises, inferior storage methods or other of the more obvious type of infringements are involved. It is realised that a goodly proportion of the populace live by the maxim that "In peace, there's nothing so becomes a man (or woman) as modest shyness and humility" and doubtless, that is a very good way of life in normal circumstances. There are occasions however, similar to those mentioned, when if the customer is prepared to "summon up the blood" and speak out his or her complaint in the shop, particularly within the hearing of others, then the offending shopkeeper, in this knowledgeable day and age, has little alternative but to apologise and mend his ways, otherwise he risks losing a deal of trade. In this manner something good will be achieved.



**List of Food Premises.**

General grocers and provision dealers .....	45
Greengrocers and fruiterers .....	5
Fishmongers .....	1
Meat Shops .....	6
Bakers and confectioners .....	7
Fried fish shops .....	6
Shops selling mainly sugar confectionery, minerals, ice cream, etc. ....	10
Licensed premises, clubs, canteens, restaurants, cafes, etc.	56
Shrimp-pickers — outworkers .....	36
	<hr/>
	172

**Adulteration.** This part of food inspection is dealt with by the Lancashire County Council.

**Bakehouses.** There are now three bakehouses in the District situated, one each at Bolton-le-Sands, Hest Bank and Middleton. On the whole a good standard of general cleanliness is maintained.

**Rodent Control Work.** The demands upon the Council Rodent Control Service continues to increase year by year, as the figures below indicate.

Number of Domestic Premises treated	
for Rats during the year .....	109
Number of visits so involved .....	436
Number of Domestic Premises treated	
for mice during the year .....	55
Number of visits so involved .....	220
Number of business or school premises	
treated for rats during year .....	8
Number of visits so involved .....	32
Number of business of school premises	
treated for mice during the year .....	7
Number of visits so involved .....	28

The service to domestic premises is a free one but a charge has to be made for business and other premises.

In addition to this work, requests for assistance in dealing with wasps nests were made by 21 householders and this work, which was equally appreciated, entailed over 50 visits.

The various sewerage systems were test baited for rats, and once again I am pleased to report that the level of infestation was remarkably low. The refuse tips also were baited at least once a quarter, this work involving in all 18 treatments and 72 visits.

Once more I should like to pay tribute to the conscientious and efficient manner in which this work is carried out by the Council's Pest Controller, whose labours frequently take him to situations which, without any degree of exaggeration whatsoever, could be described as unpleasant.





